

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF
MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER
UNDER SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. JULY, 2018.

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Attempt all questions.

SECTION - A

(20 Marks)

This Section should be answered only on the Answer Sheet provided.

1. Write an essay on one of the following topics in not more than 300 words. **(20)**
- The Role of Education for the Development of the Society
 - Teaching as a Noble Profession
 - Youth and Social media in contemporary Mizo society

SECTION - B

(80 Marks)

All questions carry equal mark of 1 each. Attempt all questions.

This Section should be answered only on the OMR Response Sheet provided.

Directions (1-16): Choose the nearest meaning of the idioms and phrases given in italics from the choices provided.

1. This young fellow was *born with a silver spoon in his mouth*.
(a) born in poverty
(b) born in wealth and luxury
(c) born in a religious family
(d) born in a family of good friends.
2. At the moment *my hands are full*.
(a) have many things in my hands
(b) I am very busy
(c) my hands are weak
(d) my hands cannot hold anything
3. Mohan's house is *put on the market*.
(a) located at a market
(b) situated near the market
(c) has view of the market
(d) offered for sale
4. He sometimes works nine hours *at a stretch*.
(a) only
(b) without any stretch
(c) rapidly
(d) continuously

5. It goes to his heart to see much misery.
- (a) touches him deeply (b) has heart attack
(c) his heart is weak (d) has a strong heart
6. You will come to grief if you follow his advice.
- (a) be joyous (b) be ruined
(c) be merry (d) be great
7. My neighbour shall be going, bag and baggage.
- (a) with lots of belongings (b) with many bags
(c) with all belongings (d) with a bag and a baggage.
8. The account of the murder made her blood creep.
- (a) filled her with sorrow (b) filled her with grief
(c) filled her with horror (d) filled her with pity
9. Another great was is on the cards.
- (a) not improbable (b) a picture on the cards
(c) was good (d) not welcome
10. He tried his hand at farming.
- (a) used his hands (b) made an attempt
(c) was good (d) was not successful
11. He lost the elections, but put a good face on.
- (a) became brave (b) put on a good show
(c) bore up courageously (d) put a make up on the face
12. Tana's adversaries moved heaven and earth to get him dismissed.
- (a) shook heaven and earth (b) put some effort
(c) prayed (d) made every possible effort
13. The bank won't accept the guarantee of a man of straw.
- (a) a man of no substance (b) a thin man
(c) a man who is fat (d) a cunning man
14. You can trust him; he is a man of his words.
- (a) a person who keep his words (b) a man who lies
(c) a trustworthy man (d) a man who speaks a lot
15. Beware of that wolf in sheep's clothing.
- (a) hypocrite (b) liar
(c) brute (d) monster
16. She appears to have an old head on young shoulder.
- (a) to be mad (b) to think deeply
(c) to be wise beyond her years (d) to be so stupid for her years

Directions (Questions 17-32): Read the given passages carefully and complete the sentences as required from the choices that follow.

Passage:

The Next ingredient is a very remarkable one: *Good Temper*. “Love is not easily provoked”. Nothing could be more striking than to find this here. We are inclined to look upon bad temper as a very harmless weakness. We speak of it as a mere infirmity of nature, a family failing, a matter of temperament, not a thing to take into very serious account in estimating a man’s character. And yet here, right in the heart of this analysis of love, it finds a place; and the Bible again and again returns to condemn it as one of the most destructive elements in human nature. The peculiarity of ill temper is that it is the vice of the virtuous. It is often the one blot on an otherwise noble character. You know men who are all but perfect, and women who would be entirely perfect, but for an easily ruffled quick-tempered or “touchy” disposition. This compatibility of ill temper with high moral character is one of the strangest and saddest problems of ethics. The truth is there are two great classes of sins—sins of the *Body*, and sins of *Disposition*. The society has no doubt whatever as to which of these is the worse. Its brand falls, without a challenge, upon the Prodigal. But are we right? We have no balance to weigh one another’s sins, and coarser and finer are but human words; but faults in the higher nature may be less venial than those in the lower, and to the eye of Him who is Love, a sin against Love may seem a hundred times more base. No form of vice, not worldliness, not greed of gold, not drunkenness itself does more to un-Christianize society than evil temper. For embittering life, for breaking up communities, for destroying the most sacred relationships, for devastating homes, for withering up men and women, for taking the bloom off childhood; in short for sheer gratuitous misery-producing power, this influence stands alone. Jealousy, anger, pride, uncharity, cruelty, self-righteousness, touchiness, doggedness, sullenness—in varying proportions these are the ingredients of all ill temper. Judge if sins of the disposition are not worse to live in, and for others to live with than sins of the body. There is really no place in Heaven for a disposition like this. A man with such a mood could only make Heaven miserable for all the people in it.

17. The popular notion about “bad temper” is that _____
(a) it is not a sin (b) it is a very harmless weakness
(c) it is very harmful
18. Bad temper is “the vice of the virtuous” because _____
(a) it is often the one blot on an otherwise noble character
(b) the virtuous are bad tempered
(c) virtue and vice go hand in hand
19. The Bible again and again returns to condemn bad temper as one of the _____
(a) vices of human nature (b) worse sins ever
(c) most destructive elements in human nature
20. There are two great classes of sins-sins of the body, and sins of _____
(a) the soul (b) disposition
(c) mankind
21. The strangest and saddest problems of ethics is the compatibility of _____
(a) ill temper with high moral character (b) temper with other vices
(c) bad temper with cool temperament.

22. The Prodigal son is said to commit _____
(a) sins of disposition (b) sins of the body
(c) sins of the mind
23. According to the author, there will be no place in Heaven for bad-tempered folk because _____
(a) such a mood will bring about peace and tranquility
(b) such a mood could be dangerous
(c) such a mood could make heaven miserable for all people in it
24. Ingredients of ill temper are _____
(a) jealousy, anger, pride (b) uncharity, cruelty, touchiness
(c) All of the above
25. The synonym of *breaking up* from the passage is _____
(a) blow up (b) wipe out
(c) destroying
26. The nearest meaning for *ruining* from the passage is _____
(a) devastating (b) desolate
(c) dark
27. The nearest word meaning for *scandalizing* is _____
(a) to shock or horrify by something considered immoral or improper
(b) paralyse
(c) materialize
28. The nearest meaning for *souring* is _____
(a) spoil (b) destroy
(c) ferment
29. The antonym for *easily offended* is _____
(a) brooding (b) hasty
(c) cheerful
30. *Gratuitous* means _____
(a) given free of charge (b) grateful
(c) want something free of charge
31. Antonym for *sin* is _____
(a) sinner (b) evil
(c) virtue
32. Antonym for *cruelty* is _____
(a) atrocious (b) kindness
(c) brutality

Directions (Questions 33-48): Identify the Parts of Speech of the underlined words and choose the right answer from the choices provided.

33. Sleep can heal many wounds.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) verb (d) adverb
34. We enjoyed ourselves very much.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
35. Who is knocking at the door?
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adverb (d) adjective
36. Come in.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) verb (d) adverb
37. Walk fast, lest you miss the train.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) verb (d) adverb
38. She has some apples at home.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
39. The sick man was taken to the hospital.
(a) adverb (b) adjective
(c) preposition (d) interjection
40. Ah! What a show!
(a) interjection (b) preposition
(c) conjunction (d) verb
41. I came but could not meet you.
(a) preposition (b) conjunction
(c) interjection (d) verb
42. Two and two make four.
(a) preposition (b) interjection
(c) conjunction (d) noun
43. Hurrah! We are home at last!
(a) conjunction (b) interjection
(c) preposition (d) adjective

44. Go quickly; you are wanted soon.
(a) adjective (b) adverb
(c) pronoun (d) verb
45. The rose is a beautiful flower.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adverb (d) adjective
46. There are rats in his kitchen.
(a) preposition (b) interjection
(c) verb (d) adverb
47. The aeroplane flew over my vineyard.
(a) interjection (b) preposition
(c) verb (d) adverb
48. Childhood is the best time in our lives.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb

Directions (Questions 49-64): Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct answer from the options given.

49. The children slept when the journey ended.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
50. Walk quickly else you will not overtake them.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
51. I called him, but he gave me no answer.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
52. They always talk who never think.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
53. Everything comes, if a man will only work and wait.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
54. Caesar was stabbed by Brutus.
(a) Active form (b) Passive form
(c) Negative form
55. Who taught you grammar?
(a) Active form (b) Passive form
(c) Negative

56. Iron is the most useful of all metals.
(a) Positive (b) Comparative
(c) Superlative
57. Mumbai is richer than most other cities in India.
(a) Positive (b) Comparative
(c) Superlative
58. Every man makes mistakes sometimes.
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative
59. No man could have done better.
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative
60. The night is very beautiful.
(a) Assertive (b) Exclamatory
(c) Negative
61. O that I were young again!
(a) Assertive (b) Exclamatory
(c) Negative
62. Why waste time in reading trash?
(a) Assertive (b) Exclamatory
(c) Interrogative
63. The boys had not finished the game by sunset.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
64. I am as strong as you are.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence

Directions (Questions 65-80): Fill in the blanks choosing a correct word from the choices provided.

65. _____ your father and mother at home?
(a) Is (b) Are
(c) Where
66. The horse and carriage _____ at the door.
(a) is (b) are
(c) were
67. Either of the roads _____ to the railway station.
(a) lead (b) leads
(c) is leading

68. _____ did you give the letter to?
(a) Who (b) Whom
(c) Where
69. There was no doubt as to _____ the speaker meant.
(a) who (b) whom
(c) him
70. The boy _____ I trusted proved worthy of my confidence.
(a) who (b) whom
(c) which
71. There are some _____ I think are clever.
(a) which (b) who
(c) whom
72. The flowers smell _____.
(a) sweet (b) sweetly
(c) more sweet
73. We feel _____.
(a) warmly (b) warm
(c) warming
74. He looked _____.
(a) angry (b) angrily
(c) more angry
75. Which is the _____ of the two?
(a) best (b) better
(c) good
76. Patricia is the _____ of the Vicar's family.
(a) elder (b) eldest
(c) older
77. The girl will be joining _____ university soon.
(a) a (b) an
(c) the
78. _____ book you mention is out of print.
(a) A (b) The
(c) An
79. _____ Indian Ocean lies to the South of the Indian Subcontinent.
(a) A (b) An
(c) The
80. _____ darkest cloud has a silver lining.
(a) A (b) An
(c) The